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BEQUEST OF
R. SINGLETON PEABODY, Esq.

January 6, 1945

Dr. Claude M. Fuess
Clerk of the Board of Trustees
Phillips Academy
Andover, Mass.

Dear Dr. Fuess:

It may well prove that the year 1944 was one of outstanding accomplishment for the Robert S. Peabody Foundation. During the year your Foundation participated in a survey of the Alcan Highway. Other participating institutions were Harvard University, the Arnold Arboretum, and the Geological Society of America. Dr. Hugh M. Raup of the Arnold Arboretum, a geographic botanist, was the leader of the party which included Mrs. Raup, a botanist, Mr. Frederick Johnson, of the Peabody Foundation, and Mr. John Sticht, a geologist of Harvard University. Other members were Dr. Stuart K. Harris of Boston University, cook, and Masters Karl and David Raup.

Through arrangements with the War Department, the party was permitted to move over the length of the Alaska Highway. They traveled to Skagway by rail and boat, thence by rail to Whitehorse, and then by truck westward as far as Fairbanks, Alaska. Returning, the party retraced its route as far as Whitehorse, continuing over the southeastern leg of the Highway to Dawson Creek, B.C., the railhead of the Northern Alberta Railway. Approximately 2200 miles of highway were covered by truck.

Camps were established at strategic places from which the surrounding territory was examined in detail, and on foot, for a radius of twenty or thirty miles.

Running notes were kept as the party was on the move and frequent stops were made in order to examine points of interest.

Before they left, the members of the party discussed at length the method of approach to the various uninvestigated scientific problems awaiting solution in northwestern North America. Involved were all factors surrounding the migration of man to North America. The reason for this careful and detailed planning of the program to be followed was to be found in the unprecedented collaboration developed among the scientific fields represented by the personnel. As the field work of the party progressed, it became apparent that the broad attack which had been outlined was a successful one. Studies of the vegetation, when combined with analyses of the geologic history of the region eventually enabled Mr. Johnson to make a preliminary geographic analysis of the region. This analysis, in turn, made it possible, eventually, to discover archaeological sites in a region where it was commonly believed little or nothing could be found. In fact, one archaeologist had spent the season of 1942 on the Highway to return with a report that nothing had been found and that probably little would ever come to light.

Mr. Johnson discovered fifteen ancient archaeological sites scattered along 1600 miles of the Highway. As it happens the material which came to light belongs in a single phase of cultural development and the evidence points to an antiquity of several thousand years. All the implications of this discovery cannot be suggested until a thorough analysis of the impressive mass of data collected by all members of the party can be completed. However, it is safe to say that from the point of view of American anthropology Mr. Johnson's work is of extreme importance.

Plans for publication at present involve release of the data through media in the several fields represented in the survey. In addition, there will be in all probability a full account of the archaeological discoveries including a readable background of botany and geology for your PAPERS OF THE ROBERT S. PEARODY FOUNDATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGY. Great credit should redound to the Foundation for its share in this survey.

Work has been temporarily suspended on Indian sites in southeastern New England so located as to give some evidence of a change in sea level. Reference to this work was made in the last report to the Trustees. Because of other duties on the part of Dr. Raup and Dr. Bryan, it seemed advisable to discontinue the work temporarily, even though permission to go on the salt marshes had already been granted by the Coast Guard.

During the summer, Mr. Pullen did a certain amount of work at a site on the bank of the Shawsheen River not far from Pomo's Pond. In this work he was assisted by a number of students under the work program of the Summer School. Trenches were opened here in continuation of the project to carry out investigations in the vicinity of Andover in conjunction with local amateurs. Reference has been made in earlier reports to other digs carried on under this project. While there is little to show from these investigations, an increasing body of information is being amassed. This in time should supplant categorical statements regarding the Indian occupation of Andover - statements only too frequently without any basis in fact. Publication has been made in both the BULLETIN OF THE MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY and in AMERICAN ANTIQUITY.

It will be recalled that in December, 1941, the several national anthropological societies held their joint meetings in Andover as guests of Phillips Academy. At that time a number of papers were prepared by anthropologists as a symposium to be delivered at the meetings. It was intended that these papers should be published as a volume by your Foundation, in cooperation with the University of Pennsylvania. The Anthropological Society of Philadelphia has also made a subvention to the volume. Due to the interruption of the work of the various contributors by the war, it has not yet been

possible to publish the volume. However, it is a pleasure to record that the papers are now on hand and are being prepared for publication by Mr. Johnson, who is editor of the volume.

Your Foundation continues to be active in the affairs of the Society for American Archaeology. Mr. Johnson, as Treasurer of that Society, has been instrumental in putting financial matters on a sound basis. Mr. Byers, as Editor, guides the publication policy of the Society.

Mr. Johnson was appointed Chairman of a Committee which was formed at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in May, 1944. This Committee was instructed to study the whole field of archaeology for the purpose of developing a series of recommendations to guide future work. Another of the duties is to investigate the huge mass of data assembled by archaeological projects carried out with Federal aid during the past ten years. It is expected that the Committee will find the ways and means of making this information available to the public. An additional and extremely important duty of the Committee is to formulate a scheme which will make it possible to secure and preserve archaeological data which would otherwise be lost through such projects as the development, by the government, of the Missouri Valley. In this work the Committee is working with the National

Research Council. At the moment, the Committee promises to become one of the significant agencies in the archaeological field. The Foundation's part in this undertaking will be of prime importance.

At the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association held in December, 1944, Mr. Byers was elected to serve as one of three representatives to the National Research Council until 1948.

Interest in the Massachusetts Archaeological Society seems to be increasing according to most recent reports. Your Foundation is intimately associated with the Society, and has been since its organization. It will be recalled that the Society was founded under the aegis of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation, that Mr. Johnson is a Trustee, and that Mr. Byers is Editor.

The children of the Andover public schools have paid their visits regularly. An increasingly close contact between the Foundation and the Andover school system has resulted from this work. In some classes, particularly a grade at the Shawsheen school, the Indian project now forms the basis for a large part of the activities in the schoolroom. We have also been visited by a class from the Tewksbury High School and it is probable that interest in archaeology will increase there. Slowly this function of the Foundation enlarges and it promises to tax the staff to the utmost. Not only will it be necessary to guide the classes about

the building but the exhibitions will have to be constantly revised. Such will necessitate some rather extensive changes in the present equipment and it is certain that before long money will have to be allotted for this purpose.

On Saturday afternoons and Sunday afternoons the Museum has been kept open by students receiving scholarship grants. Although this practice has been maintained for a number of years, there has not been very great attendance. It is therefore open to question whether the building should be kept open to the public on these days. At the root of the matter is the fact that the museum is an archaeological one, that it is not possible, in such a museum, to strip and reinstall exhibitions without a great deal of time and labor, and that once seen, archaeological exhibits can be revisited a limited number of times. With a limited staff, the amount of time required makes quick changes of exhibits impossible of execution, even were suitable material available for installation. It seems wise to consider the possibilities of increasing the staff to include a person trained in museum work, the installation of exhibits, and the care of archaeological collections and specimens in order to free the present staff for research work which is necessary if the exhibitions are to have the proper authenticity.

It is gratifying to report that both Mr. Byers and Mr. Johnson have been appointed to the Historical Committee of the Town of Andover. As a part of the projected celebration of the three hundredth anniversary of the settlement of Andover, this Committee is charged with the preparation of a history of the Town. At a recent meeting, Mr. Johnson was charged with the duty of interviewing possible authors and reporting back to the Committee at its next meeting.

Because of wartime restrictions on travel, visitors to the museum have not been many. Yet we have recently entertained Mr. Alex D. Krieger and Mr. J. Charles Kelly of the University of Texas who spent a day here studying our southwestern collections. Mr. Paul Gebhardt, a graduate student at Harvard, has spent some time here, studying our specimens from Maine, and examining Mr. Johnson's collection from Alaska. Mr. Douglas Leechman, of the National Museum of Canada, is another visitor who has traveled here to see the collections and consult with the staff.

During the year the collections were increased by three accessions, comprising 451 specimens. The greater part of which resulted from Mr. Johnson's work in Alaska and British Columbia.

The library was increased by eighty titles over and above the fifty-eight exchanges which are received

each year. New exchange agreements were entered into with the Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters, and the Viking Fund. While we have not received any publications from the Kungl. Universitetets Bibliotek, Uppsala, since the start of the war, arrangements have been completed for shipping our publications via the Swedish Embassy in Washington. It is a pleasure to record the fact that 107 paper-bound publications have now been bound in more durable cloth bindings, and that books in need of rebinding have been duly repaired. This completes the program laid out by Mrs. Drew and Mr. Johnson, and initiated in 1943.

As recorded in the last annual report, advances from capital to cover the cost of modernizing the building, redecorating the halls, and securing a portrait of Mr. Moorehead have been completely amortized. There seems no immediate prospect of any further heavy drains on our funds, and it has been decided to place any surplus which may accumulate in a reserve fund, Reserve For Expansion of Activities, for use on legitimate archaeological research when such again becomes possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas S. Byers
Director

